



Memorandum

Date: March 16, 2000

To: Ecosystem Roundtable Members

From: Wendy Halverson Martin
Restoration Coordinator

Subject: Policy for Use of Ecosystem Restoration Reserve Fund
Modification of Contract Amendment Process

Summary

The policy for use and management of the Ecosystem Restoration Program, Restoration Reserve Fund needs to be clarified and expanded. The proposed Restoration Reserve Fund policy requires a modification of the current contract amendment process, so both procedures are presented here for Roundtable review and approval.

Background

With the January 1998 signing of the cost sharing agreement, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary for Resources established a Restoration Reserve Fund. That agreement specifies the following:

Up to 5 percent of the funds described in Section II(B) [Proposition 204, Bay-Delta Act, and stakeholder contributions] will be retained in a Restoration Reserve Fund for emergency and single-time expenditures for specific activities consistent with purposes of this agreement set forth in Section I(B) [Purposes]. The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary for Resources, or their designees, acting through CALFED, may approve expenditures of funds in the Restoration Reserve Fund and can do so without going through the project selection process in Appendix B. All accounting, reporting, and crediting provisions of this Agreement shall also be applicable to Actions funded through the Restoration Reserve Fund.

Currently there are \$7,511,490 of Federal funds and \$3 million of State funds in the Reserve Fund.

However, the administrative management of the Reserve Fund has not been defined. How much is maintained in the Reserve, and the priority and process for replenishing depletions need to be defined.

CALFED Agencies

California

The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board
Department of Food and Agriculture

Federal

Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Geological Survey
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Forest Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service
Western Area Power Administration



Action

The Ecosystem Roundtable is asked to consider and approve the revised policy for the use and administration of the Ecosystem Restoration Program, Restoration Reserve Funds, and the revised contract amendment process.